

I-195 REDEVELOPMENT DISTRICT COMMISSION

MEETING OF PARKS DESIGN SUBCOMMITTEE

August 4, 2014

The Parks Design Subcommittee of the I-195 Redevelopment District Commission (the “Subcommittee”) met on Monday, August 4, 2014 beginning at 4:30 PM, at the offices of the Commerce RI, located at 315 Iron Horse Way, Suite 101, Providence, Rhode Island.

The following Subcommittee members were present and participated throughout the meeting: Ms. Barbara Hunger, Ms. Diana Johnson, and Mr. John Kelly.

Also present were Ms. Jan Brodie, District Executive Director, and Project Associate, Kate Holguin. In addition, Ms. Kelly Carr of BETA Group, Nina Brown of Brown Richardson Rowe, David Freeman of CDR Maguire, Lambri Zerva of RI DOT, and Bonnie Nickerson of the City of Providence were also present.

The meeting was called to order at 4:40 PM.

1. Executive Director Remarks.

Ms. Brodie circulated comments on the Subcommittee’s work thus far. The previous meeting gave a good background and rationale for the parks’ design, and more detail on specific elements will be discussed at this meeting and the one(s) to follow. Public comment has been and will continue to go through the Executive Director, with the exception of the August 19 meeting where public comment will be part of the meeting. Ms. Brodie, Ms. Hunger, and Ms. Nickerson will continue to attend meetings with DOT and if any major changes are made, these changes will be brought to the Parks Design Subcommittee for subsequent presentation to the full Commission.

2. Specific Elements of the East Side Park.

Ms. Carr presented on specific elements of the East Side Park and addressed the Subcommittee’s questions about the park.

“Come upon” features: Three types of musical sculptural elements—which will appear in designated spots in the East Side Park—were presented to the Subcommittee. It was suggested to move forward with the stainless steel options for reasons of aesthetics and ease of maintenance.

Historic markers: Two designs for historic markers to commemorate Interstate 195 were presented, one with a map of the District property, which was preferred by the Subcommittee. It was suggested that these markers, interpretive historical panels, and gangway markers be fabricated out of materials consistent with the materials already being used in the East Side Park. Ms. Brodie brought up a national maritime grant for which the District could apply. Funds could be used for the 195 historic markers and panels.

Furniture: Chess tables made of epy wood with a concrete base and top were presented to the Subcommittee. It was recommended that shade be provided around

chess tables and in other sitting and play areas of the park. It was also considered that bike racks should be made of stainless steel to be consistent with materials already being used in the park, and that DOT/CDR Maguire/designers could possibly contact The Steel Yard or others to bid on the construction of the bike racks.

Walkways: The walkways would be constructed of a granite-concrete combination, with wildflowers running along the paths.

Riverwalls: The riverwalls are to be designed so that the two sides of the river complement each other (i.e. no bright white concrete on one side as opposed to large dark stone block on the other), and constructed of materials that complement the materials of the bridge and walkways, including use of the concrete and recycled stone from the riprap. Patterning and coloration of concrete for consistency was mentioned and Director Lewis suggested that this could be done without great expense.

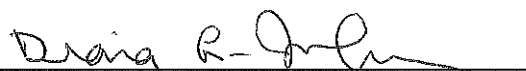
3. Specific Elements of the West Side Park

Ms. Brown presented options for water features for the West Side Park. A set of drawings and photos of three examples of water features were circulated to the ~~Commission~~ ^{Subcommittee}. The first option was shown in the Ship Street Triangle, in which jets shoot water straight up at different heights, which would be less intrusive and easier to seasonally maintain. The second option were water arch bands along the Dorrance central walkway. It was suggested that the original widths and shape of that main walkway be maintained, with a review of tapering the water arches. The third option was a tidal pool-like area situated on the promontory of the park or at the Ship Street Triangle. Although all options were desirable, there was a desire to focus on one water feature for practical reasons to allow it to get it built within the current DOT scope. It was the consensus of the subcommittee members that the central walkway and arched water feature was the preferred option, with some refinements to follow. Ms. Brown was asked to look at other options for activation of the Ship Street Triangle area.

4. Next Steps

There was overall consensus on both the east and west side park plans and design. The next Subcommittee Meeting will continue the discussion of the West Side Park's park furniture, lighting and art/play features. The meeting will be held on August 19, 2014. This meeting will also include a discussion surrounding the Pavilion and its programming, and programming in general. It was agreed that this would be a meeting at which public comment would be welcome.

There being no further business, upon motion duly made and seconded the meeting was adjourned at 6:40 pm.



I-195 Parks Design Subcommittee Member